

RAILROAD

DUXBURY CLIPPER

Thursday, September 15, 1955

First Run Of The Old Colony Line

In 1945 the Old Colony railroad was opened for business with a run to Plymouth. The train consisted of an engine and three coaches, the latter having doors on the sides instead of on the end as now. Arriving in the historical town, a chowder was served in Plymouth Hall to 400 guests. Here is an account in the Boston Advertiser written in 1896:

"The road and all the machinery being new, the train proceeded at a moderate pace, stopping at all the way stations to take in the gentlemen who had been invited to join in the excursion. The route passes through Dorchester on the sea coast border, crosses the Neponset River near its mouth, passed the villages of Quincy and South Weymouth, Center and South Abington, a portion of Hanson, a corner of Halden and the village of Kingston to its terminus, Court St., in Plymouth, a distance of 37 miles.

"The route as far as Quincy and Braintree is pleasant, but from the latter point on is uninterest-

ing. The track, with the exception of a small portion where the work is not finished, was in excellent order. The depot buildings at the way stations are yet unfinished.

"The work was completed at a cost less than the capital of the company, which is \$1,000,000. This is the 7th of the main lines of railroad that now radiate from Boston as a common center, measuring in all their branches more than 800 miles in extent.

"Said one passenger later: 'Going up the grade from what is now Quincy Adams, at that time Braintree, the locomotive was unable to pull the train and some of us were obliged to get out and help push the engine and train up the slope. First, we detached the engine and pushed that up the grade, then we took the cars and gave them a lift up the hard place. And that was the way in which we helped along the first trip over the new railroad.

"We went along all right then until we came to Kingston, four miles from Plymouth, and here we found that the bridge was not completed. The engineer did not dare to run the cars over the road heavily loaded as they were, and so we got out and pushed."

AROUND TOWN

Robert Bernath has joined the faculty at the Silver Lake Regional High School. For the past four years he worked for the William F. Clapp Laboratories in Duxbury. The Bernaths will live in the Holden House on Jocelyn Ave. until their new home on Carrowell St. is ready.

Mrs. Robert Ross of Linden Lane brought home the silver trophy for winning the mixed Scotch foursome (this has nothing

to do with mixing scotch) Labor Day tournament in Waterville, N. H. Her partner was Bill Hauser of the Cornell team. Betsy and Bob went up the cog railroad on Mt. Washington where they met Mr. and Mrs. Bartlett Bradley of Alden St., who were staying at Whitfield. The Bradleys were golf guests of the Rosses next day at the Waterville course, which is in the heart of the White Mountain national forest in Waterville Valley.